GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3263
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2007
REGULATORY AUTHORITY FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
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Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Regulatory Authority for Food Processing Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of decisions taken for development of food processing and generation of employment in the sector?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI)

(a) & (b): The Government has notified Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006 which envisages establishment of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption.

(c): For promotion and development of food processing sector, Ministry of Food Processing Industries under its Plan Schemes has been providing financial assistance to various stakeholders in the country. On the basis of Vision 2015 on Food Processing Industries adopted by the Ministry, an integrated strategy and action plan for the growth of food processing industry sector has been drawn up. The Vision is to increase level of processing from 6% to 20%, value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.6% to 3% by the year 2015. In order to realize Vision 2015, Ministry of Food Processing Industries have identified the following major strategic initiatives during 11th Plan period for rapid growth of food processing industries and consequent creation of substantial employment opportunities in the food processing sector:-

(i) Establishment of Mega Food Parks in identified clusters with appropriate backward and forward linkages.
(ii) Creation of integrated cold chains/value addition and preservation infrastructure.
(iii) Modernization of abattoirs.
(iv) Up-gradation of hygienic and quality street food and food streets.
(v) Establishment and Up-gradation of quality control laboratories.
(vi) Rationalizing tax structure.
(vii) Incentivising FDI and private investment in infrastructure.
(viii) Undertaking capacity building of small and unorganized sector.
(ix) Launching a major promotional campaign for the food processing sector.
(x) Need for larger public investment for creation of critical rural infrastructure in food processing sector.